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SOCCER NEWS

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The Official Magazine of the
VICTORIAN AMATEUR SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

SEPT. 5, 1959

GEELONG FOR DEMOTION?

See Page 1.

POLONIA'S THREAT

See Page 5.

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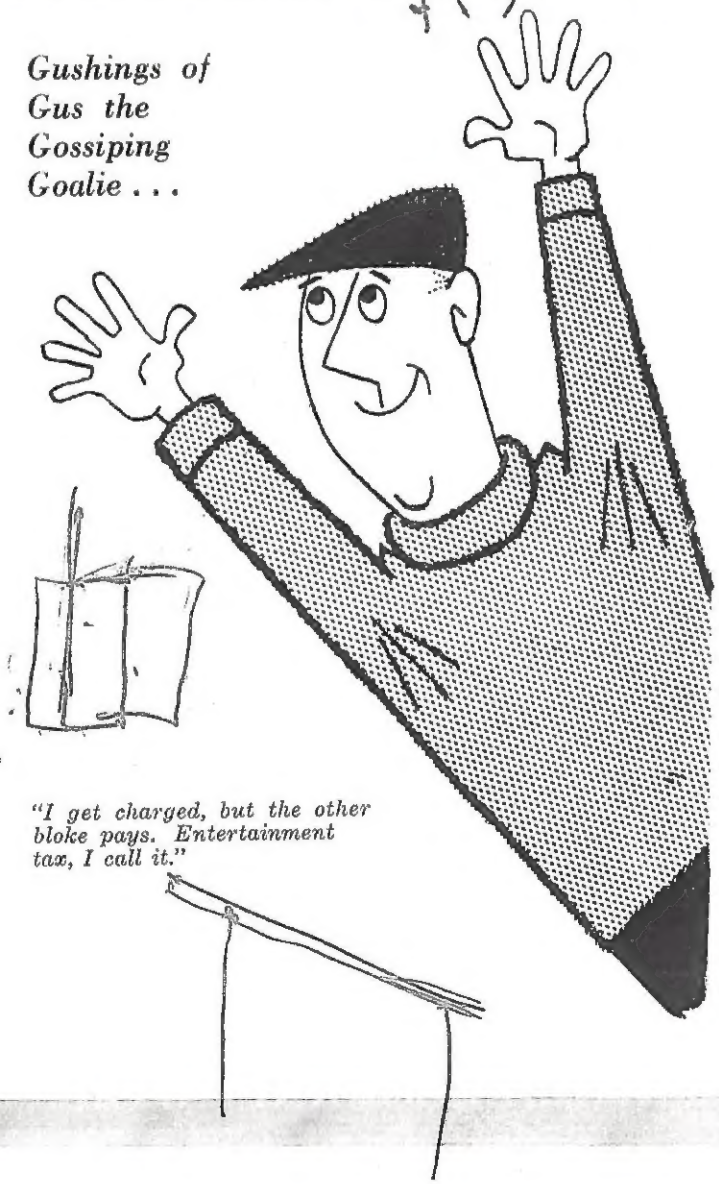
Gushings of Gus the Gossiping Goalie . . .



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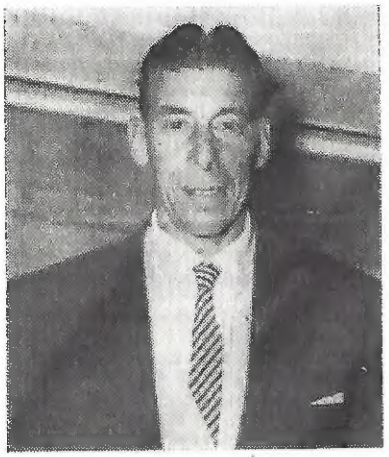

LEN YOUNG, official coach of the V.A.S.F.A., who prepared the Victorian Under 14 side for its victories over the visiting team from St. George, N.S.W. (See Page 12.)

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GEELONG COULD BE RELEGATION VICTIM

Footscray's Rise Puts Box Hill in Danger, Too

Marked down for relegation right through the season, Footscray's sudden rise has given the club a first-class chance of remaining in the State League, and has put both Box Hill and Geelong in acute danger of getting the "axe."

Geelong appears to be in the toughest spot of the three threatened clubs.

In the final round, Footscray meets J.U.S.T., and since Footscray won their first match at the Showgrounds a fortnight ago, it has an excellent chance of winning again at Turner Reserve.

Regardless of whether Footscray wins, draws, or loses, however, the key to the relegation question will be found at Wembley Park, where the home team, Box Hill, will meet Geelong in the match deferred from May 30.

TANGLED!

In the event that Footscray loses or draws, Geelong could still be the demotion victim if Box Hill wins. On the other hand, Footscray will be the victim if Geelong wins.

But if Footscray beats J.U.S.T, and Geelong beats Box Hill, Box Hill would be down-graded on percentages. Furthermore, if Footscray wins, and Geelong loses or draws, then Geelong will be the "fall guy."

Quite a tangle!

Since Footscray beat Hakoah comfortably last week at Turner Reserve, it's hard not to favour 'Scray to beat J.U.S.T. there. And since Box Hill is always a tough nut to crack on its home ground, Geelong appears to be in the most dangerous position of the three candidates for the lower division.

It is often and rightly said that one man does not make a team, but Footscray's marvellous recovery since the club acquired Bob Wemyss proves again that one man can get much more out of a team.

MIRACLE?

Compare these ladder figures:

The first line represents Footscray's figures for the first 13 rounds. The second line is Footscray's record in the last 8 rounds—since the signing of Bob Wemyss:

P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
13	0	3	10	21	56	3
8	3	3	2	9	8	9

The team's scoring rate may not have improved a great deal, but the improvement in its defence has been almost miraculous!

In the last four rounds, Footscray drew with Moreland and defeated Geelong, J.U.S.T, and Hakoah — AND NOT ONE OF THESE FOUR OPPONENTS COULD SCORE A GOAL! Footscray managed to score 6 goals in those four matches—an excellent effort.

Footscray's fight back from the brink of doom has been so plucky that most neutral fans will no doubt wish them well in the results of the last deciding round

On the other hand, sentiment for one of the oldest clubs in the league will have fans barracking for Box Hill, while thousands with the desire to see a provincial city's club in the State League will want Geelong to stay.

LEAVE ENDS

Mr. W. R. ("Bill") THOMAS, Chairman of the V.A.S.F.A., will be back in the saddle next week after three months' long-service leave which he enjoyed with his family at Surfers' Paradise.

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SOCCER NEWS

The Magazine of the

VICTORIAN AMATEUR SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Editor: MORRIE BUCKNER

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HUNGARY-CROATIA REPLAY THIS WEEK-END

Italy v. Germany Quarter-Final On Sunday, Too

The Laidlaw World Cup match, Hungary v. Croatia, which was won 2-0 by Croatia several weeks ago, will be replayed this Sunday at 1.30 p.m.

A quarter-final, Italy v. Germany, will follow at 3 p.m.

Hungary protested against the result of its first match with Croatia on the ground that Croatia had fielded two Yugoslavian players, Djukic and Nesic.

When the protest was heard by the Investigation Committee. Djukic produced a baptismal certificate clearly indicating that he was born in Zagreb, Croatia, and this part of the protest lapsed.

Hungary then produced evidence that Nesic was born in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, but, in accordance with Rule No. 7 of the competition, the Committee required Hungary to prove that neither of his parents was born in Croatia, and adjourned the hearing for two weeks to give the protesting club ample time to do so.

At the adjourned hearing, Hungary produced evidence which satisfied the Committee as to the Yugoslavian birthplaces of Nesic and his father, but failed to convince the Committee as to the birthplace of the player's mother, and the protest was dismissed.

Hungary appealed against the decision to the Sunday International Committee, whose Executive Committee ruled, at a special meeting held last Sunday, that the protest and the appeal, both of which asked for a replay, be upheld.

This Sunday's replay is a first-round match, and the winner will meet Yugoslavia in a quarter-final. This has upset the schedule for the semi-finals and the final, but new arrangements are being worked out by the Sunday League's Executive Committee.

ITALY v. GERMANY

Germany reached the quarter-final against Italy through a forfeit from Israel, so that the merits of its team as far as this competition is concerned are unknown.

German guest players are Capobus (Polonia), Reinbold (Slavia), Windt (Geelong), Schroeder (J.U.S.T.), Sicker (South Melbourne), and Czichy (Frankston).

BAN ENDED

The four-match suspension imposed on ERMES BOZ will end after today's fixtures, and he will be available for tomorrow's World Cup match.

THE TEAMS

GERMANY	ITALY
Bartkowiak	Vitti
Miler	Penzo
Capobus	Picinich
Eggert	Marini
Faltyn	Guardiani
Stegner	Gennari
Marth	Bottari
Reinbold	Frangione
Stramm	Saico
Schumacher	Boz
Landherr	Trentini
Goettlicher	Plateo
Weiland	Cubero
Larsen	Barbazza
Windt	Molinaro
Sicker	Zavatier
Schroeder	
Czichy	

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THE WORLD OF SOCCER

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Most Australian soccer fans continue to criticise our referees, and suggest that only here do referees make mistakes which upset players and fans. News from all parts of the world informs us that every referee's decisions are resented and criticised by the fans whose team is penalised, and that many fans indulge in more than mere criticism and resentment. We have received figures from France, for instance, which say that, during last season, no less than 34 French referees were threatened by hostile crowds, had to have police escorts from the pitches, and were whisked away from the arenas in police vans for their protection!

★ ★ ★

Big things stirring from a source in Italy, and were revealed when UMBERTO AGNELLI, President of JUVENTUS (Italy), declined an invitation to become President of the Italian Football Association. It seems that Mr. Agnelli is directing all his energies toward the formation of a "World Soccer League," which would include teams like Rheims, Real Madrid, Manchester United, Sparta, Glasgow Rangers, River Plate, and other glamour clubs. Inter-continental airline companies have promised co-operation if the scheme materialises.

★ ★ ★

BILL BROWN, DUNDEE and SCOTLAND 'keeper, has been transferred to TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR for £16,000. His successor at Den's Park is REGGIE MORRISON, who has been with ABERDEEN for seven seasons.

★ ★ ★

The GAY GORDON of HIBERNIAN and SCOTLAND fame who was surprisingly released at the end of last season has been snapped up by DUNDEE, who hope that he will prove to be the solution to their long-standing right wing problem. Gordon's junior club was DUNDEE NORTH END, although we was a native of MONTROSE.

★ ★ ★

Mention of Dutch club ALMELO last week reminds us to let you know that Almelo is managed by Glaswegian, ERNIE ROBINSON, who was formerly player with MANCHESTER CITY and BARNSLEY.

★ ★ ★

The late JEFF HALL, the BIRMINGHAM CITY full-back who died of polio on April 4 this year, left estate valued at £2,364.

★ ★ ★

RAYMOND KOPA, French centre-forward of REAL MADRID, has been transferred to Belgian club ANDERLECHT for a fee worthy of a star—£22,000.

★ ★ ★

MOTHERWELL won no league pennants or trophies last season, but finished in the first four in the Scottish First Division. They were constantly referred to in the Press as Scotland's teen-age glamour team. Their fans evidently endorse the descriptive title conferred by the newspapers. The gate takings shot up to such an extent that the club was able to declare a 20 per cent. dividend at its recent Annual General Meeting. Manager ANCELL said: "We could transfer all these boys for fabulous money, and would be delighted to discuss their transfer—in about 15 years' time."

★ ★ ★

HARRY HOUGH, 'keeper for BARNSLEY during the past twelve seasons, has been transferred to BRADFORD. Harry made about 390 appearances for Barnsley.

★ ★ ★

Some of these deals don't work out to everybody's satisfaction. TONY MARCHI former TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR wing half, for instance. A few years ago, he was transferred to an ITALIAN club for £35,000. He may soon return to White Hart Lane—for a fee less than half the one paid by the Italian club.

★ ★ ★

Argentinian LUIS CARNIGLIA, manager of REAL MADRID, has left SPAIN to become the manager of ITALIAN club FIORENTINA. Real Madrid will replace Carniglia with another South American—Paraguayan FLEITAS SOLICH, formerly of Brazilian club FLAMENCO and classed as the best trainer-Manager on the southern continent.

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FANS WANT THE TEAMS

Prevented by Club Methods and Outlook

Two weeks ago we printed a letter from soccer fan Mr. John Duerr asking that teams be printed in "Soccer News," either before or after the games.

From years of experience, we know that it is impossible to get correct teams in time for publication, since they are not selected until late in each week.

In reply to Mr. Duerr, we said that to gather team sheets of previous games and print them the following week is not very helpful, because players and positions are changed every week as the result of injury or experimental policy.

Another keen fan, Mr. John E. Charleson, takes issue with that statement and says that "the Editor is 'way off the mark." With due respect for Mr. Charleson's opinion, we still say it is not sufficiently helpful to be worth the trouble.

In 1955 and 1956, we went to a tremendous amount of trouble and raised colossal telephone bills — getting teams each week and printing them.

Our reward was continuous criticism and abuse because of the inaccuracy of the "teams" supplied by the clubs, and this feature was eliminated in 1957.

In reply to Mr. Duerr, we stated that only a few teams were received each week, and that "it is silly to list one or two teams from 6 leagues."

Mr. Charleson says that, at least for the State League, we should print any teams we get, even if only two. "You'll get four next week, and the lot the next, because that's the way the ball rolls," he says.

He is apparently unaware of the fact that, during all of 1958 and up until June, 1959, the same one or two teams were constantly printed. No others ever arrived.

We want the teams, too, but it cannot be done until the clubs alter their views and methods.

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SETTLING DOWN WELL WITH POLONIA

KASIMIERZ SZYGALSKI (left) and RICHARD SZCZEPANSKI, who arrived from Poland two months ago, are settling down nicely and have helped to improve Polonia's figures considerably since joining the team. (See Page 5.)

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POLONIA COULD BE THE BIG THREAT

Need Only Sharpshooter for 1960

With its new players from overseas, Polonia is settling down into one of the best teams in the State League, and, with just a bit more punch in the finishing department, could prove to be "the Big Threat" next year.

From its recent matches, particularly last week's effort against Wilhelmina, it would appear that Polonia is close to Victorian championship standard.

In common with most local teams, Polonia still needs at least one bustling, hard-hitting, sharpshooting inside-forward who is capable of converting the many chances that Polonia's present combination creates into goals.

And to create more and better chances, its smart wing-halves and forwards should develop, with tough practice and training sessions, several definite pattern plays designed to draw and open the opposing defence. They are still inclined to be a bit vague once they reach their opponents' penalty area.

DEFENCE SOUND

Polonia's defence is still quite sound—in the 11 matches played in the second half of this season, the side has yielded only 10 goals, including the three taken by Wilhemina last week.

During 40 of the 45 minutes of play in the second half of the game, Polonia's players were well on top in Wilhelmina's half of the pitch.

In that period, they scored 2 goals to equalise, but should have netted at least three more to win.

But it was in one of Wilhelmina's rare sorties into Polonia's territory that the winning goal was scored—and the way it was scored was a good example of the approach to goal that has given Wilhelmina its record total.

GOOD EXAMPLE

A square pass by Brouwer to Luyten was held by the right-winger about 35 yards out until inside-forwards had moved up into the penalty area in open formation.

Luyten then lobbed a high, dangerous centre right into the goal-mouth, forcing a hurried ineffective clearance for which Keuken was waiting, just outside the square.

His ground shot, sent through while Penzo was still off balance and unsighted by his own players, found the back of the net.

Polonia made many attempts to shoot goals from 25 to 35 yards out last week. They were good efforts—and mighty exciting. Although each one finished as a near miss, not one was a wild shot, and Polonia's players could do worse than to persist with this type of attack when the opportunity presents itself.

But the planned and patterned approach, as used by Wilhelmina, is still the most effective.

OTHER EXAMPLES

George Cross and Moreland have also provided evidence of the advantage of the classic approach to goal, and their substantial total goal tallies prove the point.

Unfortunately for Moreland's forwards, they haven't bunched their scores at the right time, and the club will finish in seventh place.

All guesswork about the "Four" is now over, and Wilhelmina, George Cross, Juventus, and Hakoah are the finalists who will fight it out for the State League Cup.

That series, plus the relegation battle, the World Cup Finals, and the last rounds of the Dockerty Cup, are full of interest, and promise a bagfull of thrills for local soccer fans.

CREDIT DUE

BOB WEMYSS

RIGHT WING HALF

Footscray is undefeated in its last five matches — 3 wins, 2 draws, 8 points — and now has an excellent chance to avoid relegation. Footscray's change of fortune coincided with the signing of Bob Wemyss, and to him must go a lot of the credit for 'Scray's fighting revival.

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LAST WEEK

STATE LEAGUE

Geelong drew with J.U.S.T., 1-1.
Footscray d. Hakoah, 2-0.
Slavia d. Moreland, 1-0.
George Cross d. Yarra Park, 5-0.
Wilhelmina d. Polonia, 3-2.
Juventus d. Box Hill, 1-0.

State League Reserves

J.U.S.T. d. Geelong, 2-0.
Hakoah d. Footscray, 5-1.
Moreland d. Slavia, 4-0.
George Cross d. Yarra Park w/o.
Polonia d. Wilhelmina, 2-1.
Juventus d. Box Hill, 5-1.

METROPOLITAN NORTH
First Division

Maccabi d. Corio, 3-2.
Preston d. Hellenic, 2-1.
Sunshine City drew Sicilia, 0-0.
Lions/Hayduk d. Coburg, 3-1.
Croatia d. Brunswick, 29-1

Second Division

Moonee Ponds d. Williamstown, 3-0.
St. Albans d. Heidelberg, 4-1.
Fairfield drew University, 2-2.
Essendon d. I.C.I., 2-1.
Fiorentina d. Collingwood, 2-1.

METROPOLITAN SOUTH
First Division

Richmond d. South Yarra, 2-0.
Melbourne d. Vic. Police, 3-1.
Yallourn d. Park Rangers, 7-2.
Brighton d. Dandenong. 2-1.
South Melbourne d. Prahran, 2-0.

Second Division

Rosebud d. F.N.D., 8-2.
Sandringham d. Croydon, 6-2.
Austria d. Frankston, 3-2.
Bayswater d. Moorabbin, 4-2.
Ferntree Gully d. Oakleigh, w/o.

METROPOLITAN RESERVES
First Division North

Coburg d. Sandringham, 3-1.
Lions/Hayduk d. University, 6-0.
Fiorentina d. Preston, 3-2.
Hellenic d. Maccabi, 2-1.
Frankston d. Sunshine City, 3-1.

First Division South

Richmond d. South Yarra, 3-0.
Park Rangers d. Yallourn, 5-2.
Dandenong d. Brighton, 2-1.
South Melbourne d. Prahran, w/o.
Melbourne—Bye.

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE

Makedonia d. Yarraville, w/o.
Norlane Olympia d. Bendigo, 3-1.
Seymour d. Melita, 7-0.
North Richmond d. Olympia, 4-2.
Hollandia drew Trident, 3-3.

WORLD CUP

Australia d. Poland, 2-1.
Italy d. England, 1-0.

This Week

DOCKERTY CUP
FIFTH ROUND

Croatia v. Wilhelmina.
George Cross v. Footscray-Capri.
Melbourne v. Yarra Park.
Slavia v. Hakoah.
J.U.S.T. v. Dandenong City.
Juventus v. Polonia.
Box Hill v. Lions/Hayduk.
Moreland v. Geelong.

STATE LEAGUE

No matches.

STATE LEAGUE RES.
(From 30/5/59)

Moreland v. Hakoah.
Juventus v. Wilhelmina.
Yarra Park v. Slavia.
Box Hill v. Geelong.
Footscray v. J.U.S.T.
Polonia v. George Cross.

METROPOLITAN NORTH.
First Division.

Hellenic v. Maccabi.
Coburg v. Sunshine City.
Sicilia v. Preston.
Brunswick v. Corio.

Second Division.

St. Albans v. Moonee Ponds.
Collingwood v. Essendon.
I.C.I. v. Fairfield.
University v. Heidelberg.
Fiorentina v. Williamstown.

METROPOLITAN SOUTH.
First Division.

South Melbourne v. Brighton.
Yallourn v. Vic. Police.
Prahran v. Richmond.

Second Division.

Croydon v. Rosebud.
Ferntree Gully v. Bayswater.
Moorabbin v. Austria.
Frankston v. Sandringham.

First Division Reserves.
(NORTH)

Lions/Hayduk v. Coburg.
Frankston v. Hellenic.
Maccabi v. Fiorentina.
Preston v. University.
Sunshine City v. Sandringham.

SOUTH)

South Yarra v. Melbourne.
Brighton v. South Melbourne.
Park Rangers v. Dandenong.
Richmond v. Prahran.
Yallourn, bye.

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE.

Norlane Olympia v. Madedonia.
Hollandia v. Olympia.
North Richmond v. Melita.
Seymour v. Bendigo.

NEXT WEEK

DOCKERTY CUP

Quarter-Finals (and Fifth Round Replays, if any) to be played.

STATE LEAGUE
State League Reserves.

Any two teams which may be eliminated from the Fifth Round of the Dockerty Cup, and who are listed as paired opponents in the postponed 10th League Round of May 30 will play their deferred fixture.

METROPOLITAN NORTH.
First Division.

Corio v. Hellenic.
Maccabi v. Sicilia.
Preston v. Coburg.
Sunshine City v. Croatia.
Lions/Hayduk v. Brunswick.

Second Division.

Williamstown v. St. Albans.
Moonee Ponds v. University.
Heidelberg v. I.C.I.
Fairfield v. Collingwood.
Essendon v. Fiorentina.

METROPOLITAN SOUTH.
First Division.

Richmond v. Melbourne.
South Yarra v. Yallourn.
Vic. Police v. Dandenong.
Park Rangers v. South Melb.
Brighton v. Prahran.

Second Division.

F.N.D. v. Croydon.
Rosebud v. Frankston.
Sandringham v. Moorabbin.
Austria v. Ferntree Gully.

FIRST NORTH RESERVES

Sandringham v. Lyons/Hayduk.
Coburg v. Preston.
University v. Maccabi.
Fiorentina v. Frankston.
Hellenic v. Sunshine City.

FIRST SOUTH RESERVES

Melbourne v. Richmond.
Yallourn v. South Yarra.
Dandenong—Bye.
Sth. Melbourne v. Park Rangers.
Prahran v. Brighton.

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE

Makedonia v. Seymour.
Bendigo v. North Richmond.
Melita v. Hollandia.
Olympia v. Trident.

HOW THEY STAND

STATE LEAGUE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	A.	P.
Wilhelmina	**21**	**17**	**2**	**2**	**85**	**35**	**36**
George Cross	**21**	**13**	**5**	**3**	**56**	**26**	**31**
Juventus	**21**	**13**	**4**	**4**	**44**	**21**	**30**
Hakoah	**21**	**14**	**2**	**5**	**49**	**27**	**30**
Slavia	21	11	6	5	49	28	27
Polonia	21	8	7	6	37	30	23
Moreland	21	8	2	11	54	38	18
J.U.S.T.	21	6	5	10	49	43	17
Box Hill	21	5	3	13	21	53	13
Footscray	21	3	6	12	30	64	12
Geelong	21	3	5	13	28	52	11
Yarra Park	21	1	2	18	27	112	4

State League Reserves

	P	W	D	L	Goals F	A	P
Wilhelmina	19	14	2	3	61	21	30
Hakoah	17	13	2	2	50	21	28
Polonia	19	10	4	5	28	22	24
Juventus	17	10	2	5	45	24	22
Geelong	18	10	1	7	37	25	21
J.U.S.T.	17	9	1	7	60	29	19
Moreland	18	7	5	6	33	25	19
Box Hill	17	7	1	9	37	38	15
George Cross	18	6	3	9	25	41	15
Footscray	19	7	1	11	23	45	15
Slavia	19	4	3	12	29	57	11
Yarra Park	22	0	1	21	3	83	1

METROPOLITAN LEAGUES

NORTH

First Division.

	P	W	D	L	Goals F	A	P
Lions-Hayduk	15	12	1	2	49	13	25
Croatia	15	11	2	2	71	21	24
Preston	15	11	2	2	49	15	24
Sunshine City	15	8	1	6	34	27	17
Sicilia	16	6	3	7	38	27	15
Maccabi	16	7	1	8	34	44	15
Coburg	15	4	4	7	28	35	12
Hellenic	16	5	1	10	29	36	11
Corio	16	5	1	10	20	38	11
Brunswick	15	0	0	15	8	104	0

Second Division.

	P	W	D	L	Goals F	A	P
Fiorentina	15	11	2	2	43	14	24
Moonee Ponds	14	11	0	3	38	17	22
University	16	9	4	3	42	26	22
Essendon	16	9	0	7	29	27	18
St. Albans	16	7	1	8	32	35	15
Fairfield	15	4	4	7	30	28	12
I.C.I.	16	5	2	9	32	46	12
Williamstown	16	5	2	9	23	36	12
Heidelberg	16	4	2	10	21	50	10
Collingwood	16	4	1	11	28	39	9

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE.

	P	W	D	L	Goals F	A	P
Norlane-Olymp.	16	11	3	2	52	24	25
North Richmond	15	10	4	1	61	24	24
Seymour	15	10	3	2	41	17	23
Makedonia	16	9	2	5	30	23	20
Trident	15	7	4	4	36	30	18
Olympia	15	8	1	6	35	26	17
Melita	16	5	2	9	26	48	12
Bendigo	14	3	3	8	26	37	9
Hollandia	16	2	1	13	32	54	5
Yarraville	16	0	1	15	3	59	1

TABLES COMPILED

by

STUART BEATON

Secretary-Manager

V.A.S.F.A.

SOUTH

First Division.

	P	W	D	L	Goals F	A	P
Melbourne	15	14	1	0	90	19	29
Richmond	15	11	1	3	60	16	23
Yallourn	15	10	1	4	57	33	21
South Melbourne	14	9	1	4	38	20	19
Brighton	14	8	1	5	35	26	17
Dandenong	14	5	1	8	42	45	11
South Yarra	15	4	1	10	26	49	9
Prahran	16	3	2	11	21	62	8
Park Rangers	15	3	0	12	25	73	6
Vic. Police	15	1	3	11	19	70	5

Second Division.

	P	W	D	L	Goals F	A	P
Sandringham	16	13	2	1	48	26	28
Frankston	16	10	2	4	53	30	22
Austria	15	9	2	4	54	36	20
Oakleigh	16	6	4	6	24	15	16
Bayswater	16	6	3	7	35	43	15
Rosebud	16	7	0	9	36	41	14
Moorabbin	15	5	3	7	32	44	13
F.N.D.	15	5	2	8	31	51	12
Ferntree Gully	15	5	0	10	38	33	10
Croydon	16	3	0	13	28	60	6

First Division Reserves (North)

	P	W	D	L	Goals F	A	P
Lions-Hayduk	16	12	1	3	50	18	25
Sunshine City	16	11	2	3	42	20	24
Fiorentina	16	10	2	4	46	25	22
Frankston	16	9	3	4	48	30	21
Coburg	16	8	2	6	33	34	18
Preston	16	7	3	6	47	31	17
Maccabi	16	7	2	7	53	36	16
Hellenic	16	5	0	11	28	52	10
Sandringham	16	3	0	13	19	51	6
University	16	0	1	15	7	86	1

First Division Reserves (South)

	P	W	D	L	Goals F	A	P
Melbourne	16	14	1	1	77	20	29
Richmond	16	13	2	1	57	20	28
Dandenong	16	9	3	4	42	28	21
Park Rangers	16	9	1	6	31	33	19
Brighton	16	7	2	7	35	32	16
Yallourn	16	5	5	6	39	49	15
South Melbourne	16	7	1	8	34	42	15
South Yarra	16	5	1	10	28	47	11
Prahran	16	3	0	13	17	89	6

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FIRST DIVISION NORTH

CROATIA'S 29 GOALS RAISE QUERIES

Could Cause Repercussions Later

Eyebrows always rise a couple of inches when a colossal score is turned in, particularly when one of the participants is engaged in a tight promotional struggle.

The news of Croatia's 29 goals, taken from Brunswick last Saturday with only one goal in reply, proved to be no exception and has set tongues wagging furiously.

It is no crime for a team to score a lot of goals, but a club which finds it impossible to field a side in keeping with the undemanding standards of our lower leagues lays itself open to investigation when it applies for re-affiliation in the following season, and its application could be rejected.

This is a thought for any club which feels that it "just can't be bothered," or "couldn't care less."

As anticipated, all of the leading six teams scored points last week, and neither the promotion nor relegation position was affected.

PRESTON FOR LEAD?

With leaders Lions and Croatia engaged in the Fifth Round of the Dockerty Cup this week, the top end of the ladder could take on a deceptive appearance, particularly if Preston beats Sicilia, as can be expected, and goes to the top of the ladder.

At the bottom, however. there could be significant changes. Corio is most favoured to rise by beating Brunswick, and Coburg must be given an excellent chance against Sunshine City, whose recent form has been inconsistent.

Maccabi beat Corio narrowly last week, and should go on with the job successfully when it meets Hellenic today. It is to be hoped that, unlike their previous meeting and for the sake of both teams, the players realise that the sport is much more important than the individual, and that the game will be allowed to go the full 90 minutes.

Lions will have their hands full, but will nevertheless have a reasonable chance of success in today's Cup match at Box Hill. It is impossible to select Croatia to beat Wilhelmina, however, even on its own ground.

FIRST DIVISION REVIEW

FIRST DIVISION SOUTH

MELBOURNE FOR CUP QUARTER-FINALS?

No Major Changes in League

In the luck of the draw, Melbourne was picked out of the hat to play at home against Yarra Park in today's Dockerty Cup round-of-sixteen.

With this advantage, and on comparative frm, the champion of First Division South should "eat" the completely discouraged team at the bottom of the State League.

This league's only other representative in this Cup round, Dandenong City, should enjoy its romp with J.U.S.T. at the Showgrounds, but although the State League side has been in shaky form, it should be too powerful for City.

It is quite likely that, of the four First Division teams which have survived so far, only Melbourne will make the quarter-finals.

FORECAST CORRECT

As forecast last week, all five teams on the upper half of the ladder beat the lower five, and no positional changes occurred.

With Melbourne and Dandenong absent in Cup fixtures, only three league matches are listed, and again the high teams meet—and should beat—the low teams, with no changes in standings expected.

Having one of those long-shot, purely theoretical chances to get up with Melbourne, Richmond will not relax against Prahran, and will go for goals as well as points.

But since Melbourne meets South Yarra twice in its last three rounds, the Hungarians would have to handicap themselves down to a 7-man team—with no goalie, stopper, or wingers—to lose the premiership now.

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SECOND DIVISION REVIEW

LACHMANN AS COACH

Joe Lachmann was at his sparkling best for Sandringham against Croydon, and celebrated his recent appointment as the Hammers' coach for 1960 with three magnificent goals. The Old Maestro is putting plenty back into soccer by helping Sandringham.

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

STUDENTS DROP A VITAL POINT

Swampies Now in Second Place

University conceded a vital point when it drew 2-2 at Fairfield, allowing Moonee Ponds to level on points and leapfrog into second place on goal average.

With two games in hand compared with the Students, and one game in hand as against leader Fiorentina, Swampies from the Ponds look to be a good bet for promotion, and even have an excellent chance of nosing the Florence Flowers out of the pennant.

All matches went according to form last week, and apart from the point taken by Fairfield, the lower half of the ladder remained static.

Again the even nature of this league was made apparent when top club Fiorentina could only beat the bottom team by the odd goal—a goal, by the way, which is in dispute and which may be the subject of a protest.

CHALLENGER'S TEST

Flag challenger Moonee Ponds will be thoroughly tested today by up-and-coming St. Albans.

Since the Swampies must meet St. Albans again soon in the match deferred from May 30, they will go all out to establish their superiority today.

The Saints' return to form since June has been so marked, their team is now the recognised "trial horse" of the league.

In their first 8 matches this year, they won only 1. and lost 7. In their last 8 matches, they won 6, drew 1, and lost 1 — an amazing recovery!

With only two matches to play, relegation candidates Heidelberg and Collingwood both appear to be in serious trouble.

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

AUSTRIA BACK IN THE RUNNING

Sandringham Takes League Honours

By DON SUTHERLAND

Austria's splendid win over Frankston last week has brought them right back into promotional calculations.

This win also confirmed Austria's superiority over Frankston, since they have now beaten the Baysiders on each of the three occasions they have met this year.

Austria has three games to play—Moorabbin twice and Ferntree Gully—while Frankston has only two games to play—Sandringham and Rosebud. Holding a narrow 2-point lead, Frankston's chance of promotion will depend to a great extent on the outcome of today's clash with Sandringham.

When Sandringham beat Croydon 6-2 last week, the Hammers established an unbeatable lead for the championship of Second South. Their triumph has been an all-club effort, but special credit for the consistency of their performances must be shared by three players—goalie Len Hayball, captain Jim Ward, and the old maestro Joe Lachmann.

The Hammers will be keen to avenge their only league defeat of the season when they travel to Frankston, and the Baysiders face a difficult task trying to win back the ground they lost to Austria.

MOORABBIN PUZZLE

Still another disappointing performance was turned on by Moorabbin last week when they were beaten 2-4 by Bayswater. Moorabbin's Cup efforts indicated real ability, but very little has been seen of it in their league matches.

Although Croydon has shown improvement recently, they cannot now avoid accepting the wooden spoon after last week's defeat by Sandringham. Rosebud slipped out of the relegation zone by recording their best win of the season over F.N.D., and the Tars are now only two points ahead of Ferntree Gully, whose lowly position on the ladder is the year's biggest surprise.

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FACTS and FLY-KICKS

trapped and passed by WINGER

Preston is already hard at work on its new ground. The first job. of course, is the levelling of the pitch with suitable earth and top-soils. What little soil is available is used faster than it is obtainable, so any good soccer man who knows where Preston can get more could do a good deed by telephoning Mr. Liepold, at 44-6166, day or evening. We can hear Preston singing, as they work, the first bars of that "Fence" song—"Give us land, lots of land. . ."

★ ★ ★

Richmond supporters are advised that seats are still available on the plane that will carry the team to Sydney for its matches against Federation teams on Saturday and Sunday, October 17 and 18. Departure is fixed for Friday, the 16th, at 6 p.m., and return on the Monday night. Fans who wish to go along should ring Mr. F. Schwab at ML 9398.

★ ★ ★

They are called "one-eyed" supporters, these football fans, but that's praising them up. As far as we are concerned, they are not just one-eyed —they're stone blind. When a ball was passed to a player who was offside on the wing last Saturday at Olympic Park, the player and his club supporters screamed with pain and anger. Two minutes later, in exactly the same play and with the player again off-side, the foul was not flagged, and seconds later after some lovely positional soccer, the player crossed the ball to a teammate who scored. Any complaints this time? Not a word.

★ ★ ★

They're mighty keen up Coburg way. Coburg's right full-back, Clements, had his arm broken six or seven weeks ago. But there he was last Saturday, back in his place probably weeks too soon, defending against the Lions.

★ ★ ★

We print this for the benefit of that bunch of fellows at Olympic Park who were arguing whether a referee should grant a goal when a player puts the ball into his own net from a free kick. Here's what F.I.F.A. has to say about it: "A player has been known to kick the ball directly into his own goal from a direct or indirect free kick, in which case the referee should award a corner-kick, provided that, in the case of a free kick taken inside the penalty area, the ball had first been kicked into play. Otherwise, the free kick from inside the penalty area will have to be re-taken." In other words, no goal. Losers in this argument will kindly form a line on the right and pay up.

Top award for schoolboys in South Australia is the Referees' Cup, with medals for the runners-up. Here's what a referee says about the boys: "These boys put on exhibitions of soccer that would put many senior teams to shame. They play purely for the sport and the honour of gaining the Cup and the medals. There is no viciousness in their play, nor animosity to their opponents. There are fouls, but 95 per cent. of these can be credited to exuberance and not knowing the laws fully. They are quite prepared to accept the decisions of the referee, though they often ask his reasons, and if a particular point is explained to them, they remember it and don't forget it when it suits them. There is the true spirit of the game."

★ ★ ★

That Sandringham "do" at the Brighton Town Hall next Saturday night WILL be a celebration affair, after all — they've won their league pennant. So they're letting their hair down on the entertainment — they've got five or six acts booked up for the night so far.

★ ★ ★

Thousands of people in the stand and on the terrace at Olympic Park last Saturday are wondering why Pat Ward disallowed a goal, supposedly "scored" by Polonia from a well-centred corner kick. None of us could see what referee Ward saw—the ball was palmed into the net. Ward was four yards from the incident. About 20 terrrace "referees," none of whom could have been less than 70 yards away and on the "blind" side of the play, nevertheless elected themselves to give the referee, the linesmen, and Wilhelmina players "a lesson in soccer" — with stones, fists, and boots. Sportsmen? Phooey. Heaven help our game to get along without such "support."

ON THE BALL

Migrants who want information which is right "on the ball" — correct and up-to-date — should call at the Migrant Information Service, Commonwealth Bank, 363-371 Collins Street, Melbourne.

Information is provided FREE on such subjects as housing, employment, education, finance or any other subject of interest to migrants.

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NOTICE TO CLUBS

Clubs are reminded that all accounts are now due and payable to the Association, and must be finalised immediately.

It is important that SEPARATE CHEQUES be made out for SOCCER NEWS payments.

CUP SHOCKS MAY BE ON TODAY

Some Winners Hard to Pick

The twelve State League teams, which were seeded out of the Dockerty Cup series during the first four rounds, enter the competition today.

Four survivors of the forty-odd challengers from the lower and country leagues will participate in this round-of-sixteen, and of the four, one SHOULD, one COULD, and two probably WILL NOT, enter the quarter-finals.

Melbourne, undefeated leader of the FIRST DIVISION SOUTH, should have little difficulty in eliminating Yarra Park, the State League's wooden-spooner, who is finishing the season with very little of the sparkle with which it started in April.

Lions Could?

The Lions have been drawn to play Box Hill out at Wembley Park.

They entered this round by beating Cup specialist Yallourn 3-0 on their own ground. On comparative analysis, which is difficult and unreliable with teams in different leagues and with varying standards, the Lions could possibly survive.

Most likely, however, they'll go out to Box Hill roaring like Lions, and return bleating like lambs.

Dandenong City also surprised in the Fourth Round when it tossed Sunshine City, a club which has seldom failed to reach the quarter-finals for years past.

Just the same, the Dandies should find J.U.S.T. at the Showgrounds a far different proposition, and they are not likely to survive.

Dutch Treat

Last of the lower leaguers, Croatia, struck the worst luck of the four when it was drawn to play Wilhelmina. Even on its own ground, Croatia cannot be expected to match the power play of the Dutchmen.

But if Wilhelmina's selectors are thinking of fielding a team of second-stringers against Croatia, they'd better think again.

The remaining four ties match State League teams against each other, and this is where picking the winners becomes very chancy.

For instance, George Cross meets Footscray. Eight weeks ago, the Maltese team would have been selected to win without a second thought.

While George Cross is still favoured, Footscray's recent improvement will force the league finalist to play Cup soccer all the way.

Revenge

Slavia is drawn to play Hakoah at home in Port Melbourne, and although Hakoah won both of their league matches, Slavia is determined to avenge these defeats and the result is a toss-up.

The tie between Juventus and Polonia will also be close, particularly if the Polish attack moves as smartly and with the same determination they displayed in the second half of their match against Wilhelmina last week.

Moreland appears to have the edge on Geelong, having won both home-and-away games with an aggregate score of 6-2.

Here is a record of the league results between the State League teams who clash today:

George Cross drew Footscray, 1-1.
George Cross d. Footscray, 6-1.

Hakoah d. Slavia, 2-0.
Hakoah d. Slavia, 4-0.

Juventus drew Polonia, 2-2.
Juventus d. Polonia, 2-0.

Moreland d. Geelong, 4-2.
Moreland d. Geelong, 2-0.

It would be nice to be able to say that this picture is an artist's conception of a new soccer stadium soon to be built in Melbourne by one of our State League clubs, It is actually a Brazilian show-piece —the stadium in Rio de Janeiro.

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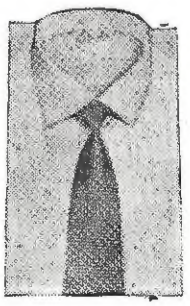


THE JUNIOR LEAGUES

VICTORIA WINS INTERSTATE MATCH

Victoria 3, defeated St. George (N.S.W.) 2, at Olympic Park last Saturday in the interstate Under 14 match.

The 4,000 spectators witnessed an intelligent and sparkling game of junior soccer, which was fast and devoid of incident.

Following fast midfield play, a swift crossfield pass from the Victorian left opened up the visitor's defence, found Abonyi on the right wing, and his pass was netted by Hay to put Victoria one up after 12 minutes.

The taller and heavier Victorian defence repulsed several St. George attacks before Caithness cleared. his pass finding Rossetto who shot narrowly past the post for Victoria.

Watson and Probert, the respective goalkeepers were in great form. Stacey, Victoria, and Podmore, St. George, were playing an intelliigent game against the opposing centre-forwards, Masters and Rossetto.

Rossetto tricked Podmore to score and put Victoria 2 up after 25 minutes. There was little between the two teams, though Victoria appeared to have the edge in speed and coordination.

Colin Masters reduced the arrears for St. George after 7 minutes of the second half, his shot entering the corner of the net.

Play swung from end to end with the visitors' forwards combining cleverly. Peter Kilvert cleared to Middleton, and the ball was quickly passed via Abonyi and Hays to Rossetto, who netted again to put Victoria 3-1 in the lead after 11 minutes.

A hard drive from 30 yards out by Grant, St. George left-half, beat Watson to reduce the arrears. Rossetto netted again for Victoria only to see the goal disallowed for a foul on Podmore.

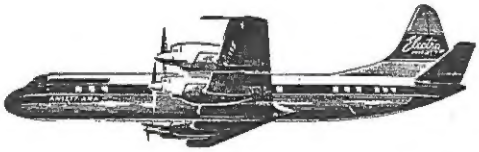
The remainder of the half developed into a stern struggle between two well matched teams, several shots at both ends narrowly missing the posts.

BIG WIN ON MONDAY

In the second Interstate match last Monday, Victoria's Under 14's scored an emphatic 5-0 win over St. George at Middle Park.

With St. George unable to reproduce their Saturday form, Victoria pressed home their advantage and after 12 minutes of the first half were three goals up, scored by W. Kilvert, Hay and Rossetto.

With most of the St. George passes going astray, the Victorian defence cleared their lines, and the Victorian forward line was combining cleverly.



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JUNIOR TABLES

UNDER 12.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	P.
Olympia	17	17	0	0	34
South Melbourne	17	12	1	4	25
Essendon	17	12	0	5	24
Brooklyn Hostel	17	11	0	6	22
Sunshine City	17	9	2	6	20
Broadmeadows Hostel	17	8	3	6	19
Williamstown Hostel	17	5	2	10	12
Preston Hostel	17	4	2	11	10

UNDER 14 (NORTH).

	P.	W.	D.	L.	P.
FINAL TABLES					
Sunshine City	14	13	0	1	26
Trident	14	11	1	2	22
Lions-Hayduk	14	8	1	5	17
Brooklyn Hostel	15	5	1	9	11
Maribyrnong Hostel	15	4	1	10	9

UNDER 14 (SOUTH).

	P.	W.	D.	L.	P.
FINAL TABLES					
St. Kilda	14	13	0	1	26
Brighton	14	10	0	4	20
Essendon	14	9	0	5	18
South Melbourne	14	7	0	7	14

UNDER 16 (NORTH).

	P.	W.	D.	L.	P.
Essendon	14	12	1	1	25
Sunshine iCty	13	12	0	1	24
South Melbourne	14	7	3	4	17
Ajax	14	6	3	5	15
Wesley College	14	5	3	6	13
South Yarra	13	5	2	6	12

UNDER 16 (SOUTH).

	P.	W.	D.	L.	P.
Dandenong City	13	12	0	1	24
Moorabbin City	13	11	1	1	23
Box Hill	14	9	0	5	18
Bayswater	14	7	2	5	16
Heidelberg	13	4	2	7	10
Croydon	13	4	1	8	9
Preston T.S.O.B.	14	4	0	10	8

UNDER 18.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	P.
Sunshine City	14	13	0	1	26
Box Hill	14	11	2	1	24
St. Kilda	14	11	2	1	24
St. Kilda	14	7	4	3	18
Coburg United	15	6	3	6	15
Preston T.S.O.B.	14	5	2	7	12
Fairfield	13	3	3	8	8
Army Apprentices	13	2	2	9	6
Tullamarine United	6	0	0	6	0

Under 16 Metropolitan trials will be held at Fawkner Park to-morrow (Sunday, September 6th). All players to report on ground at 2.00 p.m.

The Under 14 State XI will play the Metropolitan Under 14 XI at Fawkner Park to-morrow (Sunday, September 6th). Players to report on ground at 2.00 p.m.

Next Week's Fixtures

(SEPTEMBER 12th)

Under 12—Completed.

UNDER 14 FINAL FOUR COMPETITION (FINAL)

Lions-Hayduk or Sunshine City v. Essendon or Brighton.

UNDER 16 FINAL FOUR COMPETITION QUARTER-FINALS (NORTH)

South Melbourne v. Ajax.
Sunshine City v. Essendon.
Box Hill v. Dandenong City.
Moorabbin City v. Bayswater.

UNDER 18 INTER-STATE TOUR MATCHES

September 12th: Victoria v. New South Wales, at Olympic Park.
September 13th: Victoria v. New South Wales.

SOCIAL EVENTS

With the close of the season approaching, many clubs are planning balls and socials. If clubs support other clubs' affairs, they can expect the return patronage that makes every date a happy success.

Saturday, Sept. 5.—GEORGE CROSS, Malta National Day Ball, North Melbourne Town Hall, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 12. — SANDRINGHAM, annual Cabaret Ball, Brighton Town Hall. Reservations: Geoff Dobb, XU 4307.

Friday, Sept. 18. — CROYDON, Supper Dance, Dorset Hall, Maroondah Highway, Croydon, 8 p.m. Only 5/-.

Sunday, Sept. 27. — Flinders Naval Depot, all-day picnic event, six-a-side soccer tournament, in aid of Alfred Hospital Appeal.

Friday, October 2.—COBURG, Annual Cabaret Ball, at The Caribbean, St. Georges Road, Thornbury. Phone: FL 6246.

Italian Ladies Bring Luck

A murmur of appreciation — and curiosity — swept around the ground at Olympic Park last Sunday, just before the Italy-England replay, as two very attractive young ladies took the field, accompanied by Italy's officials and players.

To the accompaniment of warm applause, each took her turn at a symbolic kick-off—surely the daintiest insteps ever to move a ball at the Park.

The lovely ladies, we learned later, were Countess Teodora Sammartini, and the visiting songstress, Wanda Romanelli.

Since Italy won 1-0, the ladies are now being credited with being the bearers of good luck.

Yarra Park Reserves Withdrawn

Yarra Park has lost so many players through injuries, suspensions, and accidents, the club has been unable to field a Reserve team, which has now been officially withdrawn from the State League Reserves league. Walkovers have been granted to Slavia, Wilhelmina, Polonia, Footscray, Hakoah, and George Cross, and the ladder adjusted accordingly.

Big Clubs To Attract The Young 'Uns?

Mr. John W. Gill of Geelong, who describes himself as a 73-year-old "Pommy," suggests that strong, glamorous clubs in the provincial towns would attract boys to the game. He writes:

"The article in 'Soccer News', 'Why Should Australian Boys Take Up Soccer,' was good, but not good enough to get soccer its rightful place in Victoria.

"There is great opposition to the code in the schools, the belief being fostered that soccer players or followers are unpatriotic and un-Australian.

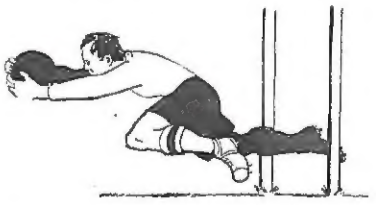
"I have been in Australia since 1926. I attended Rules games, but didn't like them. I turned to soccer, and supported it even though the grade was very low, and if more English and Scottish people had done the same, it would have gone a lot further, especially here in Geelong, where it still has a poor following.

"Geelong is the second city in Victori, and if soccer is to advance, we should have at least one strong, glamorous club here, preferably two, to attract fans and, most important, boys.

"I see where the Football Association or the clubs in England are getting a big share of money from the pools. What is wrong with asking the F.A., to sponsor a club in Geelong, and possibly asking the Italian F.A. to do the same? It seems that we must have assistance from outside.

"Good clubs could thus be built up, managers and trainers appointed, and suitable grounds obtained.

"Then schoolboys would be attracted to the clubs because of their glamour and prestige."



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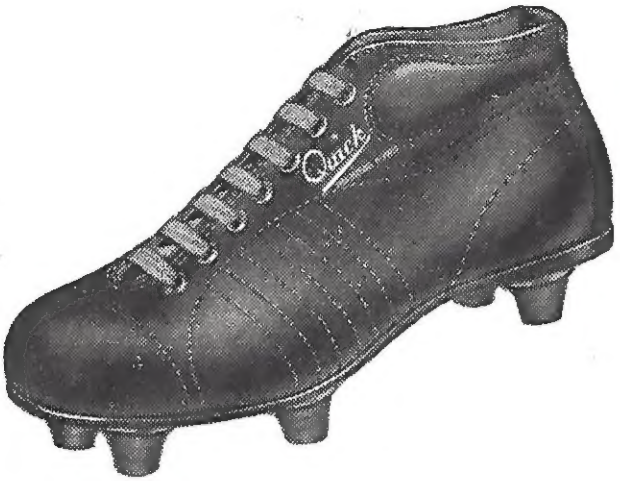

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